

Minutes of a Regular Council Meeting of Clearwater County, Province of Alberta, held June 10, 2014 in the Clearwater County Council Chambers in Rocky Mountain House.

CALL TO ORDER: The Meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Reeve Alexander with the following being present:

Reeve:	Pat Alexander
Councillors:	Curt Maki
	Jim Duncan
	Theresa Laing
	Earl Graham
	Kyle Greenwood
	John Vandermeer
Acting CAO:	Rudy Huisman
Recording Secretary:	Tracy Haight
Director, Public Works:	Marshall Morton
Director, Community & Protective Services:	
Administration:	Ted Hickey
	Kurt Magnus
	Erik Hansen
	Brad Wellygan
	Rhonda Serhan
Media:	Christine Heggart
	Sarah Maetche
Public:	Rianne De Lang
	S/Sgt Bill Laidlaw
	Cst. Mike Numan

**AGENDA
APPROVAL:**

Councillor Laing requested addition of Item F2 Letter to FCM and Item F3 Request for Authorization to attend AAMDC Wetlands Policy Workshop. Councillor Duncan requested addition of H4 Committee Reports and Reeve Alexander requested addition of H5 FCM Convention.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That the June 09, 2014 Regular Meeting Agenda be accepted as amended.

215/14 CARRIED 7/0

**CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES:**

1. May 27, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That the Minutes of the May 27, 2014 Regular Meeting be accepted.

216/14 CARRIED 7/0

2. May 27, 2014 Public Hearing Minutes

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the Minutes of the May 27, 2014 Public Hearing be accepted.

217/14 CARRIED 7/0

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

1. RCMP Quarterly Report – S/Sgt. Bill Laidlaw

S/Sgt Bill Laidlaw presented the January 1 to March 31, 2014 Detailed Crime Report for Clearwater County and noted the following:

- increase in crimes against person, particularly domestic violence
- increase in break and enter charges
- 392 common police activities, which include responding to false alarms
- 47 counts of impaired driving
- decrease in provincial traffic violations

S/Sgt Laidlaw responded to questions from Council regarding crimes against person and discussion followed on weapons offences, vehicle collisions, and domestic violence.

Discussion continued on measures taken by community and rural crime watch groups to mitigate quad theft and plans for the establishment of a focus group to further address this issue.

Sgt. Terri Miller and Jason Lucas joined the meeting.

S/Sgt Laidlaw noted current staffing levels for the detachment are low, however the provincial government will add three positions starting late 2014 and sometime in 2015, which will be of some help. Council noted lobby efforts to increase staffing levels would continue.

Discussion followed regarding common police activities and Cstl. Numan noted members respond to a considerable amount of false alarms that require a significant amount of resources to address. Council noted CCPAC and the Clearwater County newsletter could address this issue.

Cst. Numan provided a summary of the May long weekend activities and noted the combination of efforts provided by ESRD, municipalities, and RCMP were successful. Requests for provincial funding to support resource challenges for long weekend coverage for the West Country will continue.

Discussion followed on the importance of involving the provincial government regarding West Country management during all of the summer long weekends. S/Sgt Laidlaw noted he will provide a detailed report on May Long Weekend activities to Council at first opportunity.

S/Sgt Bill Laidlaw and Cst Mike Numan left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council accepts the information as presented.

218/14

CARRIED 7/0

2. CPO Highway Patrol Report & May Long Weekend Preliminary Report – Sgt Terri Miller

Sgt Terri Miller, Clearwater County CPO, introduced Jason Lucas CPO, to Council.

Sgt Miller provided information on the mission, areas of responsibility, and goals of the Community Peace Officer (CPO)

department. Sgt Miller explained efforts taken and resources required to ensure enforcement of traffic safety, protection of infrastructure, public safety, and education programs are delivered within the county.

Sgt Miller presented the January to May, 2014 Highway Patrol report and provided statistics on traffic violations, files, and complaints for the five month period.

Erik Hansen joined the meeting. Brad Welygan left the meeting.

Discussion followed on rural crime watch groups in the area and Reeve Alexander noted discussion would follow at the 2014 Organization Meeting regarding the request for a member of council to attend rural crime watch meetings.

Sgt Miller noted significant incidents relating to commercial vehicle inspections; increases in overload tickets; stop sign violations; excessive speeds on roads; and responded to questions from Council regarding overload violations.

Rhonda Serhan left the meeting.

Sgt Miller noted CPO's work together with the RCMP as they receive the majority of files and complaints. Discussion followed on the type of complaints received and Sgt Miller stated noise complaints are common. The department would like to propose a review of the current Noise Bylaw in order to provide clarity for residents.

Sgt Miller provided a preliminary summary of the long weekend activities and stated overall, it was a quiet weekend due to inclement weather.

Joe Anglin joined the meeting.

Discussion followed on the effectiveness of check stops related to location; impaired driving of off-highway vehicles; and garbage left behind from campers. Sgt Miller noted she will provide a detailed report on May Long Weekend activities to Council at first opportunity.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council accepts the information as presented.

219/14

CARRIED 7/0

Sgt Terri Miller, Jason Lucas, and Christine Heggart left the meeting.

MUNICIPAL: **1. Joe Anglin, MLA**

Reeve Alexander welcomed Joe Anglin, MLA to Council and introductions were exchanged.

Discussion followed on the "Apples to Apples: Rural Municipal Finance in Alberta" report and Mr. Anglin noted addressing municipal funding issues and understanding the impact of revenue sharing on rural municipalities is important.

Discussion followed on challenges urban and rural municipalities face for funding; use and effectiveness of charters and if charters would enable urban centres to develop alternative sources of revenue.

Kim Jakowski, Keith McCrae, Rick Valstar, Janice Valstar, and Ashley Valstar joined the meeting.

Discussion followed on bridge funding and the infrastructure deficit; approval processes for certain types of projects; and on resource road funding. Mr. Anglin noted no plan regarding industry funds for road and bridge resources has been presented as of yet.

Jennifer McDougall, Patricia Rauch-Erickson, and Rick Emmons joined the meeting.

Discussion followed on West Country management and provincial funding to provide resources for enforcement.

Mr. Anglin responded to questions from Council on the 10/10 Community Infrastructure Transfer as proposed by the Wildrose Party. Discussion followed on budget surplus and what municipalities may reasonably expect in times of budget surplus.

Amanda Rodriguez joined the meeting.

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council accepts the information as presented.

220/14

CARRIED 7/0

PLANNING:

1. First Reading Bylaw 990/14 LUA

Kim Jakowski provided information on the application from Rick and Janice Valstar to amend the Land Use Bylaw for Plan 982 2931 – Block 1, Lot 3 (Pt. SE 28 39 07 W5M), containing 2.28 acres, to redistrict from Country Residence District “CR” to Institutional District “P”.

Ms. Jakowski provided background information on the application and noted the property location, zone boundaries, and access roads. Ms. Jakowski stated Clearwater County will require comments from Alberta Transportation due to the increased traffic exiting off of Highway 11A.

Ms. Jakowski reviewed sections of the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) applicable to the application and noted an area structure plan may be required.

Ms. Jakowski reviewed sections of the Intermunicipal Development Plan (IDP) applicable to the application and noted a referral to the Town of Rocky Mountain House is required for comments or concerns.

Ms. Jakowski and Janice Valstar responded to questions from Council and Ms. Valstar noted proposed location for parking. Ms. Valstar noted she did not have opportunity to contact the town, however most of the neighbours have been contacted.

Ms. Valstar noted benefits to operating the proposed non-profit organization at the location and noted proposed hours of operation.

Keith McCrae noted the plan fits with the policy however noted concerns with compatibility to the adjoining properties and site suitability. These concerns are to be addressed thru comments received from agencies.

Ms. Valstar responded to questions from Council and noted a plumber was consulted on water and wastewater facilities.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council grants First Reading to Bylaw 990/14 and schedules a public hearing for July 22, 2014.

221/14

CARRIED 7/0

Kim Jakowski, Keith McCrae, Rick Valstar, Janice Valstar, and Ashley Valstar left the meeting.

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

4. WeHub Society

Patricia Rauch-Erickson provided information on the vision and mission of the WeHub Society and noted supporters.

Jennifer McDougall provided an online demonstration of the community network and noted the benefits and features of the information system.

Ms. McDougall responded to questions from Council regarding membership options and partnering with the Chamber of Commerce. Ms. McDougall noted the site is not intended as a public opinion or social media site; and although the objectives are different between the Chamber and WeHub, there may be benefits for possible integration in the future.

Ms. Rauch-Erickson responded to questions from Council regarding funding and noted annual fees, launch dates and future phases of the system.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That Council accepts the information as presented.

222/14

CARRIED 7/0

Jennifer McDougall and Patricia Rauch-Erickson left the meeting.

Reeve Alexander recessed the Council meeting at 12:03 P.M.

Reeve Alexander reconvened the Council meeting at 12:35 P.M. with the same people present as noted at the beginning of the meeting excluding Brad Welygan, Rhonda Serhan, Christine Heggart, S/Sgt Bill Laidlaw, and Cst Mike Numan.

PUBLIC WORKS: 1. Dust Abatement Guidelines Policy Review

Marshall Morton presented recommended amendments to the Dust Abatement policy.

Discussion followed on different types of products and variable costs for dust suppression. Council noted some ratepayers are using products of their own choice, such as calcium chloride, for dust suppression. Mr. Morton stated the policy does not prohibit the use of any one product. Council discussed allowing the use of only products as stipulated in the policy, however due to lack of technical data and assessment, testing over a period of one to three years would be required. If calcium chloride was determined an unsuitable product, a phase-out period would be considered.

Council recommended changing “ratepayer” to “applicant” in Procedure Item 3.e. Mr. Morton noted the agreement reflects

measures to transfer any outstanding amounts to taxes, however this will not apply to users of Magnesium Chloride as this is paid for upfront.

Council recommended converting all imperial measurements written in the policy to metric.

Discussion followed on possible fluctuating costs of dust suppression from year to year and if a policy review would be required for price adjustments. Mr. Morton noted adding a schedule that reflects current prices, or the addition of a procedure item noting administration is authorized to changes prices, would eliminate the requirement for review due to price changes.

Mr. Morton responded to questions from Council and noted number of applicants received to date, the amount of applications for the two products, and late applicants are referred to private suppliers.

Council recommended changing “customer” and “he/she” to “applicant” in Procedure Item 4.b.

Mr. Morton responded to questions from Council regarding grading of roads with Magnesium Chloride applications and noted locations will be recorded; water trucks will be used as required; and pending weather conditions, maintenance will be done.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council approves the draft policy amendments as recommended.

223/14

CARRIED 7/0

2. Town of Rocky Mountain House Wastewater Facility Update

Erik Hansen presented the quarterly “Wastewater Treatment & Septage Receiving Station Update” report from the Town of Rocky Mountain House.

Mr. Hansen responded to questions from Council regarding wastewater volumes and corresponding revenue. Council noted annual attendance of Kris Johnson, Director of Engineering and Operations, Town of Rocky Mountain House, at Council, as beneficial.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council accepts the information as presented.

224/14

CARRIED 7/0

Discussion followed on Beaver Flats Road maintenance. Mr. Morton noted once road bans are lifted, repairs would commence.

Rick Emmons and Amanda Rodriguez joined the meeting.

**COMMUNITY &
PROTECTIVE
SERVICES:**

3. High School Graduation Ceremonies

Tracy Haight presented invitations received from West Central, St. Dominic’s, and David Thompson High Schools to attend graduation

ceremonies on June 26 and requested confirmation of Councillors attendance.

COUNCILLOR DUNCAN: That Council authorizes Reeve Pat Alexander's attendance at West Central High School, Councillor Maki's attendance at David Thompson High School, and Councillor Greenwood's attendance at St. Dominic's Catholic High School on June 26.

225/14

CARRIED 7/0

MUNICIPAL: 2. Joint Letter to FCM

Councillor Laing noted policing concerns were discussed at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Convention she recently attended. It was recommended administration from the County and the Town of Rocky Mountain House submit a joint letter to Leanne Holt, Senior Policy Advisor, Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) requesting FCM advocate on behalf of the town and county to bring attention to the funding inequities and escalating regional policing demands on the Rocky RCMP detachment.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council directs administration to prepare a joint letter, with the Town of Rocky Mountain House administration, to the FCM addressing funding inequities and policing demands on the Rocky RCMP detachment.

226/14

CARRIED 7/0

3. Request For Authorization

Councillor Laing requested approval to attend the AAMDC Alberta Wetlands Policy Workshop on June 12.

Ted Hickey left the meeting.

COUNCILLOR LAING: That Council authorizes councillors attendance at the AAMDC Alberta Wetlands Policy workshop.

227/14

CARRIED 7/0

PLANNING: 1. Geological Exploration, Mobile Home Park

Rick Emmons stated administration requests authorization to proceed with geological and engineering work required to ascertain viability of the proposed location for a new mobile home park in Nordegg. Upon consultation with Clearwater County's Finance

Department, there are adequate funds in contingency to cover this request.

COUNCILLOR VANDERMEER: That Council approves reallocation of \$110,000 from contingency to 6604/8257 (Planning-Nordegg).

228/14

CARRIED 7/0

INFORMATION:

4. Committee Reports

Councillor Duncan provided a verbal report on the Bighorn Backcountry Standing Committee and the Common Grounds Pow Wow Committee.

5. FCM Convention Update

Reeve Alexander, Councillor Laing and Councillor Greenwood provided an update on their attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) in Niagara Falls.

COUNCILLOR GRAHAM: That the CAO's Report, Public Works Director's Report, Accounts Payable Listing, Committee Reports and FCM Convention Update are accepted as information.

229/14

CARRIED 7/0

IN CAMERA:

COUNCILLOR MAKI: That Council meets as a Committee of the Whole to discuss Land – Nordegg Ranger Station at 2:05 P.M.

230/14

CARRIED 7/0

COUNCILLOR LAING: That the meeting reverts to an Open Meeting at 2:40 P.M.


231/14

CARRIED 7/0

ADJOURNMENT: COUNCILLOR LAING: That the Meeting adjourns.
2:40 P.M.

232/14

CARRIED 7/0



REEVE

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER